P. ENT COOPERATION TREAT

	From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU				
PCT	То:				
NOTIFICATION OF THE RECORDING OF A CHANGE (PCT Rule 92bis.1 and Administrative Instructions, Section 422) Date of mailing (day/month/year) 23 February 2001 (23.02.01)	GERVASI, Gemma Notarbartolo & Gervasi S.p.A. Corso di Porta Vittoria, 9 I-20122 Milan ITALIE				
Applicant's or agent's file reference 1918PTWO	IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION				
International application No. PCT/EP00/03586	International filing date (day/month/year) 20 April 2000 (20.04.00)				
The following indications appeared on record concerning: The applicant the inventor	the agent the common representative				
Name and Address ECOSER S.R.L.	State of Nationality State of Residence				
Via Casatenovo Residence I-20050 Correzzana Italy	Telephone No.				
	Facsimile No.				
	Teleprinter No.				
The International Bureau hereby notifies the applicant that the X the person the name the add					
Name and Address TONER ENTERPRISE INC.	State of Nationality State of Residence LI LI				
Kierchstrasse 1 FL-9490 Vaduz Liechtenstein	Telephone No.				
	Facsimile No.				
	Teleprinter No.				
3. Further observations, if necessary:					
4. A copy of this notification has been sent to:					
X the receiving Office the International Searching Authority	the designated Offices concerned X the elected Offices concerned				
X the International Preliminary Examining Authority	other:				
The International Bureau of WIPO	Authorized officer				
34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland	R. Raissi				
Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38				

PATENT COOPERATION TREAT

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

Commissioner
US Department of Commerce
United States Patent and Trademark

Office, PCT

2011 South Clark Place Room

CP2/5C24

Arlington, VA 22202

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 18 January 2001 (18.01.01)	ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE in its capacity as elected Office
International application No. PCT/EP00/03586	Applicant's or agent's file reference 1918PTWO
International filing date (day/month/year) 20 April 2000 (20.04.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 22 April 1999 (22.04.99)
Applicant GRABITZ, Ernst, Bernhard	!

1.	The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:
	X in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
	21 November 2000 (21.11.00)
	in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:
2.	The election X was
1	was not
	made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Authorized officer

Olivia TEFY

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

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PATENT COOPERATION TREAT



REC'D	1 § JUL 2001
WIPO	PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or	agent's file reference	Γ		7.	
1918PTWC		FOR FURTHER A			ation of Transmittal of International Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International a	pplication No.	International filing date	(day/month/ye	ear)	Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/EP00/	03586	20/04/2000			22/04/1999
International P A61K9/50	Patent Classification (IPC) or nat	ional classification and IP	PC .		
Applicant	TERROICE INC				
TONER EN	TERPRISE INC.				
This inte and is tra	rnational preliminary exami ansmitted to the applicant a	nation report has been ecording to Article 36.	prepared b	y this Inter	national Preliminary Examining Authority
2. This REF	PORT consists of a total of	4 sheets, including this	s cover shee	et.	
beer	report is also accompanied n amended and are the basi Rule 70.16 and Section 60	s for this report and/or	sheets con	taining rec	, claims and/or drawings which have tifications made before this Authority PCT).
These ar	nnexes consist of a total of 3	3 sheets.			
3. This repo	ort contains indications relati	ng to the following iter	ns:		
ιΣ	Basis of the report				
11 [Priority				
III C	Non-establishment of op	inion with regard to no	velty, invent	tive step a	nd industrial applicability
IV [Lack of unity of inventior				
v 🗵	Reasoned statement und citations and explanation	der Article 35(2) with re as suporting such state	egard to nov ement	elty, inven	tive step or industrial applicability;
VI 🗆	Certain documents cited	I			
VII 🗵	Certain defects in the inte	ernational application			
VIII C	Certain observations on	the international applic	ation		
Date of submiss	sion of the demand		Date of com	pletion of th	is report
21/11/2000			12.07.2001		
	ng address of the international mining authority:		Authorized o	officer	SPIECUES MILVE
D-8	ropean Patent Office 80298 Munich I. +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 e x: +49 89 2399 - 4465	pmu d	Merkl, B	lo. +49 89 2	399 2138

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP00/03586

l. Basis c	of the report
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1	the an	ith regard to the eler e receiving Office in ad are not annexed to escription, pages:	response to an i	nvitation unde	r Article 14 are	referred to in this	ch have been furnished to report as "originally filed" 6 and 70.17)):
	1-	50	as originally file	ed			
	CI	aims, No.:					
	1-2	24	as received on		27/04/2001	with letter of	27/04/2001
2.	lan	th regard to the lan g guage in which the i ese elements were a	international app	lication was file	ed, unless othe	erwise indicated ur	
		the language of pu	ıblication of the i	nternational ap	plication (unde	er Rule 48.3(b)).	n (under Rule 23.1(b)). y examination (under Rule
3.	Wit	h regard to any nuc ernational preliminar	leotide and/or a y examination wa	mino acid sec as carried out	quence discloson the basis of	sed in the internation the sequence listing	onal application, the ng:
		contained in the int	ternational applic	ation in writter	n form.		
		filed together with t	the international	application in o	computer reada	able form.	
		furnished subseque					
		furnished subseque	ently to this Auth	ority in compu	ter readable fo	rm.	
		The statement that the international ap	the subsequent pplication as filed	ly furnished wr has been furn	ritten sequence nished.	e listing does not g	o beyond the disclosure in
		The statement that listing has been fur	the information in the informati	recorded in co	mputer readab	le form is identical	to the written sequence
4.	The	amendments have	resulted in the ca	ancellation of:			
		the description,	pages:				
	\boxtimes	the claims,	Nos.:	25			
		the drawings,	sheets:				
5.		This report has bee considered to go be	en established as eyond the disclos	s if (some of) the sure as filed (F	ne amendment Rule 70.2(c)):	s had not been ma	ide, since they have been

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No. PCT/EP00/03586

(Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.)

- 6. Additional observations, if necessary:
- V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- 1. Statement

Novelty (N)

Yes:

Claims 1-24

No: Claims

Inventive step (IS)

Yes:

Claims 1-24

No: Claims

Industrial applicability (IA)

Yes: Claims 1-24

No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations see separate sheet

VII. Certain defects in the international application

The following defects in the form or contents of the international application have been noted: see separate sheet

Item V:

D1: EP-A-0 904 701 (DOX AL ITALIA SPA) 31 March 1999 (1999-03-31)

D2: EP-A-0 899 326 (DOX AL ITALIA SPA) 3 March 1999 (1999-03-03) cited in the application

D3: FR-A-2 324 312 (TOPFER GMBH) 15 April 1977 (1977-04-15)

D4: WO 94 22572 A (BRITISH TEXTILE TECH; SAGAR BRIAN FREDERICK

(GB); SAGAR ANTHONY JO) 13 October 1994 (1994-10-13)

D5: EP-A-0 094 979 (UNIVERSAL FOODS CORP) 30 November 1983 (1983-11-

30)

None of the documents cited in the international search report discloses inactivated microorganisms comprising one of the specific active agents defined in claim 1 of the application. Therefore the requirements for novelty (Art. 33(2) PCT) are met.

The problem of the present application was to provide a device for the oral administration of drugs wherein their efficacy is maintained, especially wherein thermostability during the preparation is improved. D1 and D2 solve different problems. D1 does not deal with thermostability and D2 achieves better bioavailability of food by improvement of digestive processes. Therefore the requirements of inventive step (Art. 33(3) PCT) are met.

Item VII:

Contrary to the requirements of Rule 5.1(a)(ii) PCT, the relevant background art disclosed in the documents D1-D5 is not mentioned in the description, nor are these documents identified therein.

The description has not been adapted to the amended claims.

The disclaimer in claim 1 has to read "nor digestive enzymes" in order to comply with Art. 34 PCT.



CLAIMS

- 1. Inactivated microorganism containing one or more soluble and/or solubilizable
- 2 substances having pharmacological activity and/or nutritional substances having
- 3 pharmacological activity.
- 2. Microorganism according to Claim 1, characterized in that said microorganism is
- 2 Saccharomyces cerevisiae.
- 3. Microorganism according to Claims 1-2, characterized in that said soluble
- 2 and/or solubilizable substance having pharmacological activity is oxytetracycline.
- 4. Microorganism according to Claims 1-2, characterized in that said soluble
- 2 and/or solubilizable substance having pharmacological activity is sodium
- 3 sulphadimethoxine.
- 5. Microorganism according to Claims 1-2, characterized in that said soluble
- 2 and/or solubilizable substance having pharmacological activity is a vaccine.
- 6. Microorganism according to Claims 1-2, characterized in that said nutritional
- substance having pharmacological activity is ascorbic acid.
- 7. Microorganism according to Claims 1-2, characterized in that said nutritional
- substance having pharmacological activity is selected among: cyanocobalamin
- $_3$ (vitamin B12), folic acid, thiamine (Vitamin B1), α -tocopherol, zinc and cobalt.
- 8. Microorganism containing one or more soluble and/or solubilizable substances
- 2 having pharmacological activity and/or nutritional substances having
- 3 pharmacological activity, according to Claims 3-7.
- 9. Microorganism according to Claims 1-7, containing nutritional substances
- having pharmacological activity as components of any food, feeding or beverage
- 3 for human or animal use.
- 10. Microorganism according to Claim 9, where said feeding is specific for fish.
- 1 11. Microorganism according to Claim 10, where said feeding is specific for the
- early stages of growth of fish.
- 1 12. Microorganism according to Claims 10-11, wherein said nutritional substance
- 2 is ascorbic acid.
- 1 13. Food composition comprising one or more inactivated microorganisms
- 2 according to Claims 1-12.
- 1 14. Use of one or more inactivated microorganisms according to Claims 1-12, in

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PCT/EP00/03586

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2 human or animal alimentation.

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1 15. Use of the microorganisms according to Claims 1-12, as components of feeding or premixes in zootechnics.

- 16. Use of the microorganisms according to Claims 10-12 for the feeding of fish.
- 17. Process for the preparation of inactivated microorganisms containing one or
- 2 more soluble and/or solubilizable substances having pharmacological activity
- and/or nutritional substances having pharmacological activity, according to Claims
 - 1-12, comprising the following steps:
 - i) drawing out the endocellular mass of a suitable microorganism by means of hypertonic treatment, separation of the drawn out endocellular mass and recovery of the empty microorganisms;
 - ii) optional inactivation of the microorganism obtained in Step i) chemically or physically, leaving the external membrane of the microorganism unaltered; and
 - iii) intracellular loading of one or more soluble and/or solubilizable substances having pharmacological activity and/or nutritional substances having pharmacological activity, into the inactivated microorganism obtained in Step i) or Step ii), is obtained by means of hypo- and/or iso-tonic treatment.
- 1 18. Process for the preparation of inactivated microorganisms according to Claim 2 17, characterized in that:
 - in Step i) the drawing out of the endocellular mass is obtained by incubation in a hypertonic solution of the same pharmacologically active substance to be loaded into the microorganism;
 - in Step iii) said pharmacologically active substance is already present in the solution and is loaded into the microorganism with a change of the osmolarity due to dilution of the solution to hypo- and/or isotonicity.
 - 19. Process according to Claims 17 and 18, characterized in that Step iii) is followed by treatment of the microorganisms with a fixative or a disinfectant agent
- 20. Process for the preparation of inactivated microorganisms described in Claims
- 1-12, according to the following steps:
- 1) the microorganism is inactivated by thermal treatment, at 60-65°C for 30-120 min;
 - 2) the inactivated cells of the microorganism are resuspended in an isotonic

- 6 medium comprising the active principle to be incorporated;
- 7 3) the suspension is left under stirring for 48-72 hours;
- 8 4) the suspension is centrifuged;
- 9 5) optional buffering and/or fixation is carried out using formalin and/or glutaraldehyde.
- 21. Process according to Claims 17 and 18, characterized in that the hypertonic
- treatment in step i) is obtained by incubation of a hypertonic solution comprising:
- NaCl in concentrations higher than 0.2 M;
- optionally sodium citrate 0.03 0.1 M.
- 22. Process according to Claims 17 and 18, in which said hypotonic treatment in
- step iii) is obtained by means of a hypotonic solution comprising:
- NaCl in concentrations lower than 0.12 M;
- optionally sodium citrate in concentrations lower than 0.025 M.
- 23. Process according to Claims 17, in which the isotonic treatment in step iii) is
- performed by a 0.9% NaCl isotonic solution, optionally comprising sodium citrate
- 3 0.025 M.

- 1 24. Process according to Claims 17, in which
 - said hypertonic solution is NaCl 1.0 M and sodium citrate 0.05 M;
- said hypotonic solution is NaCl 0.05 M and sodium citrate 0.005 M
- 25. Process according to Claims 17, in which
- said hypertonic solution is NaCl 1.0 M and sodium citrate 0.05 M;
- said isotonic solution is NaCl 0.9% and sodium citrate 0.025 M.



PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference		of Transmittal of International Search Report 220) as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.
International application No.	International filing date (day/month/year)	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year)
PCT/EP 00/03586	20/04/2000	22/04/1999
Applicant	*	
ECOSER S.R.L.		
This International Search Report has been according to Article 18. A copy is being tra	n prepared by this International Searching Au ansmitted to the International Bureau.	therity and is transmitted to the applicant
This International Search Report consists X It is also accompanied by	of a total of4 sheets. a copy of each prior art document cited in this	s report.
1. Basis of the report		
	international search was carried out on the ba ess otherwise indicated under this item.	isis of the international application in the
the international search w Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).	as carried out on the basis of a translation of	the international application furnished to this
		nternational application, the international search
	nal application in written form.	_
	rnational application in computer readable for this Authority in written form.	m.
	this Authority in computer readble form.	
the statement that the sub	sequently furnished written sequence listing o	does not go beyond the disclosure in the
international application a the statement that the info furnished		is identical to the written sequence listing has been
2. X Certain claims were four	nd unsearchable (See Box I).	
3. Unity of Invention is laci	dng (see Box II).	
4. With regard to the title ,		
the text is approved as su	bmitted by the applicant.	
	hed by this Authority to read as follows:	
INACTIVATED MICROORGAN ACTIVITY	IISMS COMPRISING SUBSTANCES	HAVING PHARMACOLOGICAL
5. With regard to the abstract,		
the text is approved as sul	omitted by the applicant.	
the text has been establish	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	ity as it appears in Box III. The applicant may, port, submit comments to this Authority.
6. The figure of the drawing to be publi	· ·	==
as suggested by the applic	cant.	None of the figures.
because the applicant faile	ed to suggest a figure.	_
because this figure better	characterizes the invention.	



a. classification of subject matter IPC 7 A61K9/50 A23K1/18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

 $\begin{array}{ll} \mbox{Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)} \\ \mbox{IPC 7} & \mbox{A61K} & \mbox{A23K} \end{array}$

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, FSTA, MEDLINE, CHEM ABS Data, EMBASE, LIFESCIENCES

C. DOCUM	ENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 904 701 A (DOX AL ITALIA SPA) 31 March 1999 (1999-03-31)	1,2, 7-11, 13-15, 17,21,22
	paragraph '0010! - paragraph '0014! paragraph '0032! - paragraph '0047! example 1 claims 1-3,6,7,13,16,20-22	17,21,22
X	EP 0 899 326 A (DOX AL ITALIA SPA) 3 March 1999 (1999-03-03) cited in the application	1,2, 9-11, 13-15, 17,21,22
	paragraph '0012! - paragraph '0015! paragraph '0041! - paragraph '0059! paragraph '0065! - paragraph '0066! example 1 claims 1-4,12,16,17,20-23	
	 -/	

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	Patent family members are listed in annex.			
 Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed 	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family			
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report			
16 October 2000	23/10/2000			
Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer			
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL – 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31–70) 340–2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31–70) 340–3016	Epskamp, S			



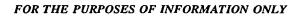
		161/21 00/03380
.(Continuategory °	Action) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT	Indonesia del vi
alegory	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
x	FR 2 324 312 A (TOPFER GMBH) 15 April 1977 (1977-04-15) page 1, line 37 -page 2, line 13 example claims	1,9-11, 13,14
X	WO 94 22572 A (BRITISH TEXTILE TECH ;SAGAR BRIAN FREDERICK (GB); SAGAR ANTHONY JO) 13 October 1994 (1994-10-13) page 2, paragraph 1 page 3, paragraph 3 -page 4, paragraph 3 claims 1,8-13	1,2, 9-11, 13-16
X	EP 0 094 979 A (UNIVERSAL FOODS CORP) 30 November 1983 (1983-11-30)	1,2, 9-11,13, 14
	<pre>page 3, line 25 -page 4, line 29 page 9, line 13 - line 19 example 3 claims 1,10</pre>	
	*	
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ation on patent family members

rational Application No
PCT/EP 00/03586

	document earch report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP 090	04701	Α	31-03-1999	IT	129436	59 B	24-03-1999
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FR 232	24312	A	15-04-1977	DE	254168		24-03-1977
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				BE	84633		17-01-1977
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				AU	69010		23-04-1998
				AU	638069		24-10-1994
				BG	6264		28-04-2000
				BG	10003		28-06-1996
				BR	940623		09-01-1996
				CA	215962		13-10-1994
				CZ	950245		17-04-1996
				DE	6941060		02-07-1998
				DE	6941060		24-09-1998
			•	DK	69188		12-10-1998
				EP	069188		17-01-1996
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				NO.	95389		29-09-1995
				NZ	26320		19-12-1997
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				US	566076	9 A	26-08-1997
EP 009	94979	Α	30-11-1983	AT	2193		15-09-1986
				DE	327300	0 D	09-10-1986



Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
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CZ	Czech Republic	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
DE	Germany	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DK	Denmark	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
EE	Estonia	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		



(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization International Bureau





(43) International Publication Date 2 November 2000 (02.11.2000)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number WO 00/64417 A3

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: A23K 1/18

A61K 9/50,

- (21) International Application Number: PCT/EP00/03586
- (22) International Filing Date: 20 April 2000 (20.04.2000)
- (25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

MI99A000842

English

(30) Priority Data:

22 April 1999 (22.04.1999) IT

- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ECOSER S.R.L. [IT/IT]; Via Casatenovo Residence, I-20050 Correzzana (IT).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): GRABITZ, Ernst, Bernhard [DE/IT]; Via S. Eurosia, 22, I-22064 Casatenovo (IT).
- (74) Agent: GERVASI, Gemma: Notarbartolo & Gervasi S.p.A., Corso di Porta Vittoria, 9, I-20122 Milan (IT).

- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

With international search report.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 11 January 2001

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.



00/64417 A



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT



Internal val Application No PCT/EP 00/03586

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61K9/50 A23K1/18

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 A61K A23K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, BIOSIS, FSTA, MEDLINE, CHEM ABS Data, EMBASE, LIFESCIENCES

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
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 Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed 	"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or carnot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone invention carnot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "8" document member of the same patent family			
Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report			
16 October 2000	23/10/2000			
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2	Authonzed officer			
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040. Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Epskamp, S			

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.





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